

but made frequent contributions of sums from two or three hundred up to a thousand dollars for special needs of the Department of Entomology.

He was active in scientific work until the end, and at the time of his death he had on his desk the galley proof of his final contribution to Entomology, a monograph of the Coleoptera of the Galápagos Islands.

His career will be recounted with pride and his memory held in deep affection by his friends and students in many lands, and by his colleagues in the University of California and the California Academy of Sciences.

ASTRONOMY SECTION MEETS

THE FIRST MEETING of the Astronomy Section was held Wednesday, October 8. Eight members were present (four from the Student Section), and six guests. Four other Academy members have indicated that they plan to attend future section meetings.

Leon E. Salanave, Planetarium lecturer, was acting chairman. He outlined briefly some of the activities that are planned, including guest speakers, discussions led by members, and excursions to observatories. George Bunton, Planetarium manager, suggested a series of lectures covering the highlights of astronomy.

Regular meetings of the section are set for the second Wednesday of each month. On November 12, at 7:30 P. M., in the Lecture Room of the Student Section, Salanave will discuss "Astronomical Yardsticks," how the astronomer measures distance in space. All interested members are urged to attend, and guests are welcome.

NEW MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS were elected by the Council at its meeting of October 9, 1952:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Herbert Cohn
Mr. G. L. Narfi
Miss Jeanne R. Schulz

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Mr. William J. Losh

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Joan Murray

ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 155

NOVEMBER, 1952

November Announcement

THE REGULAR NOVEMBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held at 8 P. M. Monday, November 3, in the Morrison Auditorium in the Academy Hall of Sciences, Golden Gate Park. Fran William Hall, who is noted for his Western nature films, will present:

"THE FOUR CORNERS"

The color motion picture was filmed in the famous Four Corners, where the states of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah came together. A unique and truly monumental region, Four Corners is an area where mountains, chasms, and the wild river of the Colorado crowd upon each other with a turbulence perhaps unsurpassed in the world.

Shown will be some of the wildlife inhabitants of this wilderness which includes the Great Sand Dunes National Monument, the San Juan and La Plata Mountains, Canyon de Chelly, Mesa Verde, and the Four Corners.

Hall, who is head of the Department of Photography, Carleton College, has spent many summers exploring and photographing in the West. In 1940 he made an expedition to the little known Wind River Mountains of Wyoming, second largest glacial mass in the United States. Later he was one of the first men to explore and photograph the fifty-miles-long Dark Canyon in southeastern Utah. In 1947, Hall made an official film of Mesa Verde in Colorado. He has photographed the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and numerous trips to Mexico have made him an authority on wildlife of that area. Hall lectures under the auspices of the National Audubon Society.

The public is cordially invited.

BOTANICAL CLUB MARKS ANNIVERSARY

ON THURSDAY, October 2, the California Botanical Club held its sixty-first annual meeting in the Academy herbarium. The club was founded, according to its records, "in the herbarium room of the California Academy of Sciences on March 7, 1891." Since that date it has been under the active leadership of Academy botanists.

At present the club meets every Thursday at the Academy with Miss Alice Eastwood, who has been a leader in the club since 1892, or with John Thomas Howell, curator, Department of Botany. Frequent field excursions are made to nearby points of botanical interest.

Published Monthly by

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



Edwin Cooper Van Dyke

On September 5, when this photograph was made, Dr. Van Dyke was examining part of a collection of insects which had just arrived from Arizona.

EDWIN COOPER VAN DYKE

1869-1952

EDWIN COOPER VAN DYKE, Honorary Curator of the Department of Entomology in the California Academy of Sciences, and dean of Pacific Coast entomologists, died on September 28, 1952, after a brief illness.

He was born in Oakland, California, April 7, 1869, the son of Walter and Rowena Cooper Van Dyke. His father, who was of direct Dutch descent, was born in New York State, and came to California in 1849. At the time of his death in 1905, he was a justice of the State Supreme Court. Edwin's mother, the daughter of a shipbuilder, was born on Prince Edward Island, and was brought to California by her father in his own ship in 1850. Thus Edwin Van Dyke came of sturdy pioneer stock, and his own early memories went back to a time when Oakland and Los Angeles were small rural communities.

He attended public school in Oakland, and high school in Oakland and Los Angeles. He graduated from the University of California in 1893, and obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Cooper Medical College in 1895. From 1896 to 1898 he held the post of assistant surgeon at the National Soldiers Home in Santa Monica, and from 1898 to 1913 he practiced medicine in San Francisco, being respectively surgeon in charge at St. Luke's Hospital (1898-1901) and surgeon in charge at the clinic of the Good Samaritan.

He had pursued entomology as a hobby from his boyhood, and had published a paper on "Butterflies of Yosemite Valley" while he was still an undergraduate. As time went on, his interest in entomology grew, his attention turning especially to the Coleoptera. In 1904 he became a member of the California Academy of Sciences, and in January, 1906, was appointed curator of the Academy's Department of Entomology, which appointment he accepted without salary, continuing to support himself by the practice of medicine.

In 1915 he was appointed assistant professor of entomology in the University of California and that same year was married to Mary Annie Ames. In 1927 he attained the rank of professor, and was retired as professor emeritus in 1939.

Immediately after his retirement he and his wife took a long trip by automobile through the eastern United States. While on this trip Mrs. Van Dyke unfortunately fell ill and died.

Returning to California, Dr. Van Dyke came to the Academy and in conversation with the Director, observed:

"My life has divided itself into three parts. The first was the period of my student days and my practice of medicine. The second was the period of my marriage and my teaching. I am now entering the third period—I intend to devote the rest of my life to the California Academy of Sciences."

From then until his death he was at the Academy almost every day, working diligently at research and curatorial duties. He donated his great collection of beetles and his fine entomological library. He not only worked without salary,